

Amendments to and listing of the claims:

Please cancel claims 1-57 and add new claims 58-81, without prejudice, as shown below in the following listing of all claims ever presented. The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions thereof.

1-57. (Cancelled)

58. (New) A method comprising:

(a) providing a microemulsion comprising an oil and an emulsifier system, wherein the emulsifier system comprises a hydrophilic emulsifier and a lipophilic emulsifier; and
(b) contacting a fabric with the microemulsion in an automatic washing machine.

59. (New) The method according to claim 58, wherein contacting the fabric with the microemulsion is carried out during a rinse cycle.

60. (New) The method according to claim 58, wherein the microemulsion has a droplet size d_{50} of less than 500 nm.

61. (New) The method according to claim 58, wherein the microemulsion further comprises a cationic polymer.

62. (New) The method according to claim 61, wherein the cationic polymer is present in an amount less than 10 wt.%, based on the microemulsion.

63. (New) The method according to claim 62, wherein the cationic polymer comprises a polymeric quaternary ammonium compound.

64. (New) The method according to claim 58, wherein the microemulsion further comprises a sequestering agent.

65. (New) The method according to claim 64, wherein the sequestering agent comprises a component selected from the group consisting of citrates, citric acid, gluconates, gluconic acid, phosphates, phosphonates, carboxylates, ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid and salts thereof, nitrilotriacetic acid and salts thereof, diethylenetriaminepentaacetic acid and salts thereof, propylenediaminetetraacetic acid and salts thereof, alaninediacetic acid and salts thereof, methylglycinediacetic acid and salts thereof, iminodisuccinic acid and salts thereof, a trisodium salt of ethylenediamine-N,N'-disuccinic acid, and mixtures thereof.

66. (New) The method according to claim 58, wherein the emulsifier system comprises a cationic emulsifier.

67. (New) The method according to claim 58, wherein the lipophilic emulsifier comprises a cationic emulsifier.

68. (New) The method according to claim 67, wherein the cationic emulsifier comprises a quaternary ammonium compound.

69. (New) The method according to claim 58, wherein the emulsifier system comprises a non-ionic emulsifier.

70. (New) The method according to claim 58, wherein the hydrophilic emulsifier comprises a non-ionic emulsifier.

71. (New) The method according to claim 58, wherein the oil is present in an amount of 0.5 to 50 wt.%, based on the microemulsion.

72. (New) The method according to claim 58, wherein the microemulsion further comprises a thickener, and wherein the thickener is present in an amount of 0.05 to 3 wt.%, based on the emulsion.

73. (New) The method according to claim 58, wherein the microemulsion has a pH less than or equal to 6.5 at 20°C, as measured via a 1% aqueous solution of the microemulsion.

74. (New) The method according to claim 58, wherein the microemulsion further comprises an acidic buffer.

75. (New) The method according to claim 58, wherein the microemulsion has a viscosity of 5 to 300 mPas, measured with a Brookfield-Viskosimeter DV II at 22°C, 20 rpm, spindel 3.

76. (New) The method according to claim 58, wherein the microemulsion has a density of 0.900 to 1.050 g/cm³ at 22°C.

77. (New) A microemulsion comprising: an oil, an antioxidant, and an emulsifier system; wherein the emulsifier system comprises a hydrophilic emulsifier and a lipophilic emulsifier; and wherein the microemulsion has a droplet size d₅₀ less than 500 nm.

78. (New) The microemulsion according to claim 77, wherein the lipophilic emulsifier comprises a cationic emulsifier.

79. (New) The microemulsion according to claim 77, wherein the hydrophilic emulsifier comprises a non-ionic emulsifier.

80. **(New)** The microemulsion according to claim 77, further comprising a cationic polymer.

81. **(New)** The microemulsion according to claim 77, further comprising an acidic buffer.